

## Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

RSR-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /095 W  
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R 210819 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4509

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 2684

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MY, CH

SUBJECT: GOM OPENS TALKS WITH PRC

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 2663 ( NOTAL)

SUMMARY. GOM BEGINS PRELIMINARY TALKS WITH PRC TODAY AT  
UN WITH VIEW TOWARD ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC TIES.  
MALAYSIANS PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS GET PEKING ASSURANCES ON  
LATTER'S RELATIONS WITH COMMUNIST INSURGENCIES AND  
LOCAL CHINESE COMMUNITY. END SUMMARY

1. MFA WORKING- LEVEL CHINA- WATCHER WONG PENG CHONG TODAY  
CONFIDENTIALLY INFORMED EMBOFF THAT PRELIMINARY  
DISCUSSIONS ON DIPLOMATIC TIES BETWEEN MALAYSIA AND PRC  
WOULD BEGIN TODAY AT THE UN. HE REFUSED TO SPECULATE ON  
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HOW LONG TALKS WOULD CONTINUE OR WHEN FORMAL RELATIONS WOULD BE ANNOUNCED, ADDING ONLY THAT TIMING DEPENDED ON PROGRESS OF TALKS.

2. DURING DISCUSSIONS, WONG SAID, GOM WOULD OUTLINE TO CHINESE ITS CONCERNS ABOUT INTERNAL COMMUNIST INSURGENCIES AND LOCAL CHINESE POPULATION. GOM REALIZED THAT PEKING CANNOT PUBLICLY RENOUNCE ITS TIES WITH MALAYSIAN COMMUNIST MOVEMENT, BUT IS HOPING IT CAN CONVINCE PRC TO ADHERE TO EXPANDED FORMULATION OF NON- INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS PRINCIPLE. IN THIS CONNECTION WONG SAID THAT GOM NOW STUDYING FORMULATION CONTAINED IN COMMUNIQUE ISSUED FOLLOWING VISIT OF MEXICAN PRESIDENT OT PEKING.

3. WONG SAID THAT LATTER POINT WAS NOT ONLY OF INTEREST TO GOM AS INTERNAL MATTER, BUT IT ALSO HAD REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS PARTICULARLY FOR MALAYSIA' S ASEAN ALLIES. IF GOM COULD ELICIT FORTHCOMING PRC POSITION, THIS MIGHT ASSIST IN SOOTHING THAI AND INDONESIAN RESERVATIONS ON TIES WITH PEKING.

4. ON PROBLEM OF LOCAL CHINESE, GOM WILL TRY TO PROBE PRC' S OFFICIAL LEGAL POSITION ON DUAL CITIZENSHIP. WONG SAID GOM HAD IMPRESSION THAT PEKING IN RECENT YEARS HAD IMPROVED ON SUBJECT, SPECIFICALLY CITING DE- ACTIVIZATION OF OVERSEAS CHINESE COMMISSION, BUT MALAYSIANS WOULD WISH TO HAVE CLEAR- CUT PRC MESSAGE TO LOCAL CHINESE FORSWEARING ANY CLAIM TO THEIR ALLEGIANCE. IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE, MFA SEC GEN ZAITON ALSO STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF DISABUSING LOCAL CHINESE OF ANY MISCONCEPTION ABOUT ROLE OF PRC DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE IN MALAYSIA.

5. GOM' S IMPRESSION, ACCORDING TO WONG, IS THAT PEKING IS ANXIOUS TO MOVE QUICKLY TOWARD FORMAL TIES. PEKING MFA OFFICIAL TRAVELING WITH PING- PONG TEAM LAST WEEK ( SEE REF) WAS PREPARED AND EAGER TO INITIATE TALKS LAST WEEK, BUT GOM TREATED HIS CALL ON MFA DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL AS COURTESY VISIT. WONG INDICATED THAT GOM IS THEREFORE ANXIOUS TO CONVERT PEKING' S EAGERNESS INTO TANGIBLE CONCESSIONS.

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YM WONG CONFIRMED THAT ASEAN CHIEFS OF MISSION JUN 18 WERE INFORMED OF THE UPCOMING TALKS IN LINE WITH UNDER- TAKING TO KEEP ASEAN ALLIES INFORMED OF MOVEMENTS TOWARD PEKING.

7. COMMENT. WHILE GOM, OF COURSE, HOPES TO MAKE THE MOST OUT

ANY LEVERAGE IT MAY HAVE VIS- A- VIS PEKING, INDICATIONS  
ARE STRONG THAT FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF DIPLOMATIC TIES  
WILL NOT BE LATER THAN AUGUST. FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT  
IT MAY TAKE SEVERAL MONTHS TO WORK OUT LOGISTICAL DETAILS  
AND WE WOULD NOT EXPECT PRC DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE IN KL  
MUCH BEFORE END OF YEAR.  
CHESLAW

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